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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I'm a residential consumer and self-employed professional and I support broadband and telephone service competition. Over the past 15 years, I have used the broadband services of AT&T, Comcast, Verizon and Sonic. During some of those years, Comcast or AT&T were the ONLY broadband options available where I live, and those were DARK TIMES as literally nothing improved from one year to the next.

Fortunately, additional service providers (including Sonic Fusion) entered the local market, and we were able to secure from them better service at a lower prices. Then, surprise of surprises, AT&T and Comcast began improving and upgrading THEIR services and, in some cases, reducing costs to consumers. But Sonic then upgraded to fiber optic connections, and we stayed with Sonic and now have fiber optic service for about the same price as the two-line wire-base services we had before.

To make a long story short, the large telecommunications companies did NOTHING to improve their service, quality or prices in this area until alternative providers gained a foothold. Thanks to the competition that smaller companies, have stimulated in this area, we now have better service than ever at a price that is less than what we paid a few years ago.

Without this kind of competition in our local broadband and telecommunications market, we'd be paying more for less. With it, we're paying less for more!

Jon Wagner